

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Daniel Lyle Callahan et al.

Serial No.: 10/615,011

Filed: July 8, 2003

Docket No.: 200308561-1

Title: FORCE DISTRIBUTING SPRING ELEMENT

REMARKS

The following remarks are made in response to the Final Office Action mailed April 5, 2007. In the Office Action, claims 20-24 were allowed while claims 3-4, 6-7, 10-16, and 19 stand rejected. Claims 1-2, 5, 8-9, and 17-18 were previously cancelled. With this Response, claims 2-4, 6-7, 10-16, and 19 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 20-24 remain pending in the application and are presented for reconsideration and allowance.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 3-4, 6-7, 10-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Beaman et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,738,531 (Beaman) in view of Gonzalez et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,657,131 (Gonzalez). Claims 15-16 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Beaman in view of Gonzalez, and further in view of Haselby et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,299,460 (Haselby).

Applicants have cancelled claims 3-4, 6-7, 10-16, and 19 without prejudice, thereby obviating the Section 103 rejections. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of those rejections.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants acknowledge the allowance of claims 20-24.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that allowed claims 20-24 are in form for allowance. Therefore, formal allowance of claims 20-24 is respectfully requested.

No fees are required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16(h)(i). However, if such fees are required, the Patent Office is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

The Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's representative at the below-listed telephone numbers to facilitate prosecution of this application.

Any inquiry regarding this Amendment and Response should be directed to either Paul S. Grunzweig at Telephone No. (612) 767-2504, Facsimile No. (612) 573-2005 or David A. Plettner at Telephone No. (408) 447-3013, Facsimile No. (408) 447-0854. In addition, all correspondence should continue to be directed to the following address:

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Respectfully submitted,

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By his attorneys,

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